



Economic Overview And Outlook: Montana

JOBS

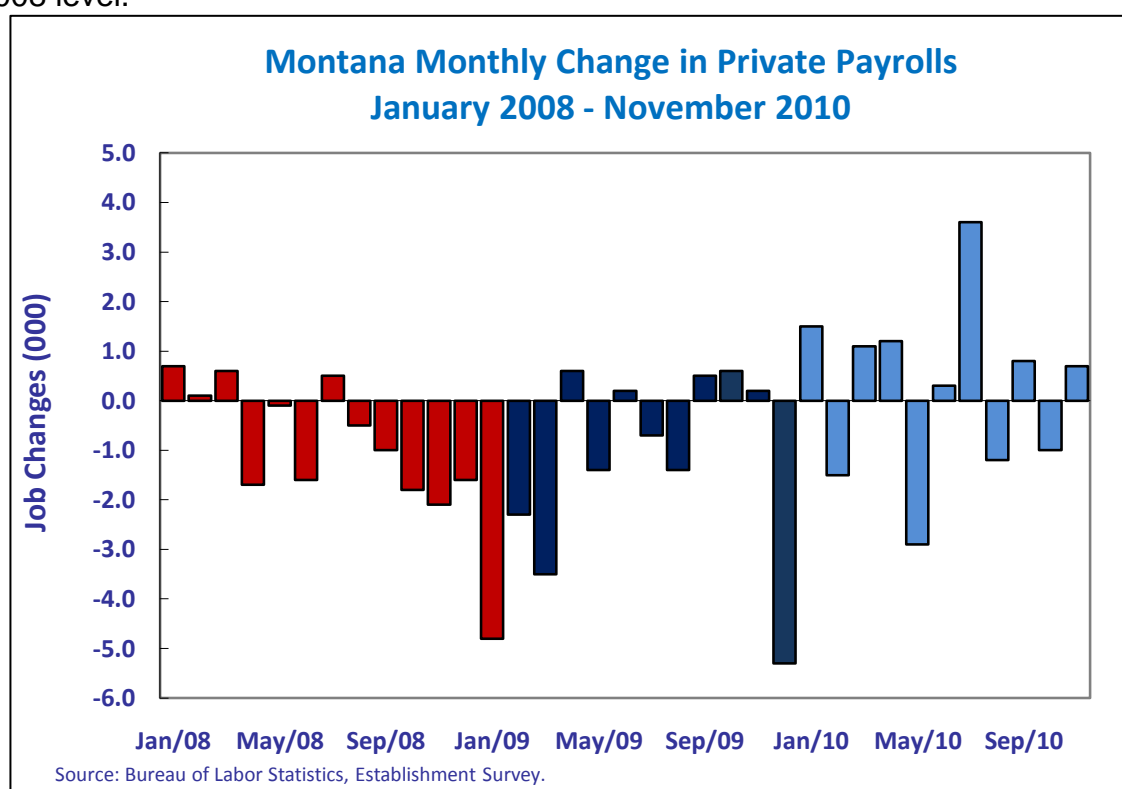
- Across the country, the private sector gained jobs in each month of 2010.
- The President's Council of Economic Advisers estimates that investments made through the Recovery Act have boosted employment in Montana by 10,000 jobs through the 3rd quarter of 2010.
- In Montana, private sector employment fell by 7.2 percent from December 2007 to December 2009. In 2010, private sector employment grew by 0.8 percent.
- In Montana, employees in the construction, mining, and manufacturing sectors faced the largest job losses (as a percent of employment within an industry) over the recession. In 2010, the following sectors in Montana experienced the greatest employment increases: other services; mining; and manufacturing.*
- As the economy recovers from the Great Recession, service-providing industries are projected to add the most jobs between 2008 and 2018, with the largest gains in professional and business services, education, health care and social assistance, and State and local government. Within the goods-producing sector of the economy, only the construction industry is projected to add jobs above its 2008 level.

EMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Montana was 7.2 percent in November 2010, up 3.3 percentage points from December 2007, but down from its most recent peak of 7.4 percent reached in September 2010.
- 36,000 Montana residents were counted among the unemployed in Montana during November 2010.

EARNINGS

- Between the start of the recession in the 4th quarter of 2007 and the 3rd quarter of 2009, inflation-adjusted total personal income in the United States declined 2.2 percent. Most recently, in the 3rd quarter of 2010, total personal income remained 0.6 percent below the 2nd quarter 2008 peak.



- Real per capita personal income (in 2005 \$) in Montana was \$32,256.70 in the 3rd quarter of 2010, up from \$32,007.50 in the 3rd quarter of 2008.

HOUSING

- National home prices, including distressed sales, saw a decrease of 3.9 percent in October 2010 from October 2009 compared to a 2.4 percent decrease in September. In Montana, home prices saw an increase of 0.4 percent in October 2010 from October 2009 following September's year over year decrease of 0.8 percent.
- The median price of single-family homes in Montana was \$178,188 in the second quarter of 2010, compared to \$180,176 nationwide.
- As of the 3rd quarter of 2010, 1.9 percent of all mortgages, including 10.6 percent of subprime mortgages, were in foreclosure in Montana.
- Housing starts in Montana totaled 1,790 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in October 2010, a decrease of 46.4 percent from September.
- Within the West census region, which includes Montana, sales of new single-family homes totaled 51,000 units in October 2010, a decrease of 23.9 percent from September. Sales of existing single-family homes decreased 2.1 percent to 940,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from September to October 2010.

* For Montana-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Montana office:
<http://www.ourfactsyourfuture.org/cgi/databrowsing/?PAGEID=4&SUBID=190>

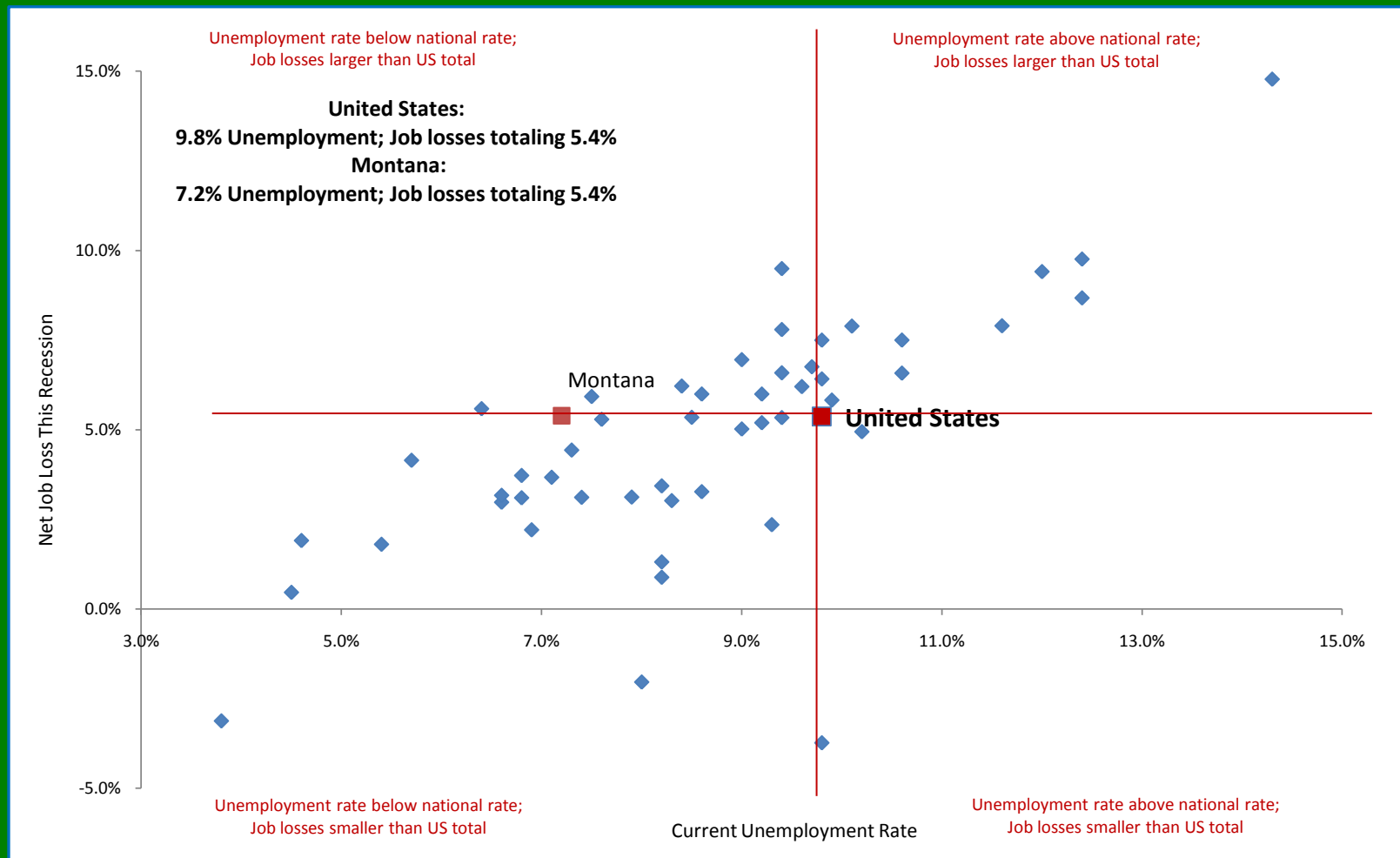
Prepared by the Majority Staff of the Joint Economic Committee

How Does Montana Compare To Other States?

Workers across the country have been hard hit by the Great Recession. This chart allows you to compare Montana to other states using two metrics.

The current unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor market conditions faced by residents, while the proportion of jobs lost within Montana over the course of the recession (shown along the vertical axis) measures the toll the recession has taken on the job supply in Montana.

States falling in the upper right quadrant have lost a disproportionate share of jobs, relative to the total United States, and have unemployment rates higher than the national unemployment rate. States falling in the lower left quadrant have unemployment rates lower than the national average and smaller job losses over the recession.



STATE QUICK FACTS

		Montana	United States
Unemployment Rates	November 2008	5.3%	6.9%
	November 2009	6.6%	10.0%
	November 2010	7.2%	9.8%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	2009	9.6%	7.1%
Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2009	9.8%	8.9%
Median Household Income	2007	\$ 45,160	\$ 51,965
	(2009 \$) 2009	\$ 40,437	\$ 49,777
Poverty Rate	2007	13.0%	12.5%
	2009	13.5%	14.3%
No Health Insurance	2007	15.6%	15.3%
	2009	15.4%	16.7%